TERM 2

| Week 9 |
| --- | --- |
| 28 June | STUDENT FREE DAY  
Staff Training & Development Day |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 July</td>
<td>START OF SEMESTER 2</td>
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</table>
| 1 July | Resources meeting 7.30 pm  
Governing Council 8.00 pm |
| 1 – 5 July | V Tech Student Release |
| 3 July | Junior School Assembly 9.30 – 10 am |
| 5 July | LAST DAY OF TERM 2 |
| 5 July | Whole School Assembly 12.15 pm |
| 5 July | School finishes 2.20 pm  
Buses Depart 2.30 pm |

TERM 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22 July</td>
<td>Term 3 commences</td>
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LEADERS LEARNING

I was at the Murray Mallee Leaders meeting at Loxton last Friday. Our learning priority for the day was on the sorts of things that students need to be able to do to be engaged and hence lead to successful learning outcomes. Our focus was on how to challenge and stretch our students. Getting them to think! Parents and students need expect that as students move up through the years work will get harder and it requires resilience and effort on the part of the student. Getting students to challenge themselves and take risks is at times a real struggle in class. Neuroscience research has found that for students to engage in their learning and stretch their capability that they need to use what are termed as STOP THINK SKILLS. These skills are fundamental and are:

1. Inhibiting impulses: This means the student needs to be able to stop acting inappropriately and stop and think. There are many behaviours that fit into this category, things like not listening, playing with things while the teacher is talking, humming, tapping, interrupting to name just a few.

2. Working Memory: This refers to being able to recall things that have been previously learnt and practiced as to be automatic. For example being able to recall number processes quickly, knowing times tables instantly, spelling common words, automatically allows students to then engage their brains in higher order thinking to solve problems and hence build skills, knowledge and understanding.

3. Cognitive Flexibility, is about being able to adjust thinking, solve problems, and change perspective.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

We come to the end of what has been a really busy Term 2. As this newsletter is the final one for the term, I wish all students and their families a great holiday break beginning as of next Friday 5th July.

Semester 1 Subject reports have been completed by teachers, Home group reports are being written, they will be collated and will go home to parents and caregivers on Friday last day of term. **Change over to Semester Two will begin on Monday 1st July.** This will mean a new timetable for all classes across the school, particularly for Middle and Senior School students.
At Meningie Area School our aim is to challenge all students to raise the bar, and engage them in higher order thinking skills. Unfortunately, research shows that learners with low resilience are often disheartened and get stuck, frustrated and then look for ways to avoid learning tasks. At this point they often become disruptive and change the focus in the classroom so they can avoid the work.

It is really important that we all take some time to think about STOP, THINK, SKILLS. As a school community, what can we do to ensure that all of our students are heading in the right direction?

Right from the very early years parents and carers can begin to set their children up for success. Start with listening. This is something we can all do. Building working memory is also a skill that can be worked on and it is never too late as the brain is constantly reacting to information and growing as response.

To find out more about these three elements the internet is a great starting point. Just by typing in key words such as working memory, cognitive flexibility and neuroscience for kids.

Monica Williams
Principal

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**ATTENDANCE**

![Attendance Chart]

Consistent school attendance increases connections within the school and community. Everyday counts!

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**CAPTAINS’ SOCIAL**

On behalf of the school Captains, I would like to thank all parents and teachers who assisted with the Social on Tuesday the 11th June. This was the school’s first social in 3 years and was a great success. We raised over $900 and 70% of this will go towards Mrs Hood’s and Mrs Mason’s bush walk for the Jodi Lee Foundation in week 9. It was very pleasing to see such a great turn out, and everyone dressed according to the theme “dress as something beginning with the first letter of your name.” Throughout the night there were prizes awarded to best dressed, most creative, best dancer and the winners of the games limbo and musical statues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Winners</th>
<th>Junior</th>
<th>Senior</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Best Dressed</strong></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jace Ridley</td>
<td>Georgia Brooks</td>
<td>Jai Ling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Most creative costume</strong></td>
<td>Riley Stephenson</td>
<td>Tiarnie Ling</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Best Dancer</strong></td>
<td>Henry Turner</td>
<td>Destiny Shaw</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Limbo</strong></td>
<td>Lachlan Brooks</td>
<td>Skyeisha Rigney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Musical Statues</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Lucy Waser</td>
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Congratulations to all Winners. Hopefully with your support we will be able to provide more social events such as this in the future for all students to enjoy.

Thanks, Marni Hood (House Captain)

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**THE BUSHWALK - an extract from a year 11 Outdoor Education student’s report by Alysha Eckert**

**Day 1**

It was all decided when everyone miraculously picked the long straws. I was first leader and wracking my brains trying to remember how not to get completely lost. Yet, after we were dropped at the end of the Loop road and the silence of the bus’s absence settled over us, the many weeks of preparation began to re-infiltrate my brain. I had packed my food according to the extensively particular menu partner Lizzy and I had planned,
crammed in the appropriate clothing for the weather and organised my pack making sure the weight was distributed correctly. Lizzy and I had split the trangia, billys and tent between us to share the weight. I took the compass bearing from the map using the navigation skills we had learnt, and began to lead the group off into the trees. There was no going back now. I was glad the group was really tolerant as with no trig point and the thick trees, progress was slow and the GPS cut in and out often. The shock of carrying the heavy packs was also slowing us down and with many complaints about sore shoulders I took this into consideration as a leader gauging when to stop to rest and to make sure the group stayed together. We stumbled across the Nukan Kungun Hike, a walking track which is around 27 km long beginning at Salt Creek, linking the smaller Ngarrindjeri walk with 42 Mile Crossing and Ocean Beach. This gave me a greater appreciation of the land, knowing how sacred it was to the Ngarrindjeri people and it also made me take more care when selecting a route to minimise the impact our group had on the environment. It also allowed us easier, clearer walking and as we got onto open ground I began to become familiar with the role of being a leader. The leadership swapped to Lizzy once I had reached my destination at the end of the second lake.

NAIDOC WEEK

As some of you may know it is NAIDOC Week in the first week of the school holidays from the 7th-14th July 2013. Celebrations are held around Australia each year to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people. This week is not only celebrated in Aboriginal Communities but within Government Agencies, schools, local councils and workplaces.

There are a number of celebrations around our local community and the Murraylands this year such as flag raisings, bridge walk, NAIDOC Awards, open days at cultural centres, discos, football matches etc. Keep an eye out for these cultural and family fun filled events over your break. Our school will be doing weaving and making feather flowers and will be holding a BBQ on Wednesday at 12.45pm on Wednesday 3rd July. There will be with kangaroo patties and Coorong Mullet as early celebrations; parents and caregivers are more than welcome to attend.

KIDS HELPLINE

Kids Helpline is a valuable free resource for children and young people to offer help and support about any situation. It is available 24/7 if they need to talk to someone neutral.

Call 1800 55 1800 or visit www.kidshelp.com.au

Kids Helpline can chat about anything...

- Your mum, dad, a boyfriend or girlfriend
- A friend who needs help
- School or study worries
- Or maybe you are feeling angry, sad, worried or confused
- Bullying
- Family fights
- Making friends
- Staying safe online

Boat Licence

The Lakes Hub and Meningie Sailing Club is organising an evening course for community members to gain their boat licence or special permit (under 16 years).

When: Thursday July 25th
At 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

Where: Meningie Sailing Club

Identification Required on the night

Bookings required by 18th July:
Meningie Lakes Hub 08 85751830
Meningie Area School office 08 85751106

Maximum of 30 people
Consistent school attendance increases connections within the school and community. Everyday counts!

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**Study at the other end of the world!**
AFS – one of the world’s largest not-for-profit intercultural students exchange organisations – is on the lookout for young Australian students willing to embark on the experience of a lifetime and to become a cultural Ambassador. Are you ready to step out of your comfort zone to...
- Become a part of a whole new family, making friends from all over the world
- Learn about a new culture and be immersed in the language
- Represent Australia with pride

In 2013/14, AFS has over 50 destinations for the high school exchange program ranging in duration from 2 to 11 months. All you need to do is to choose where you’d like to go! It’s a once in a lifetime opportunity you’ll never forget!

**Feel up to the challenge?**
Check out www.afs.org.au, call 1300 131736 for everything you need to know to make your dream a reality.

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**STUDENT BONUS**

**Need a boost to your mid-year school budget?**
The second payment of the Schoolkids Bonus is coming in July. If you are eligible you could receive up to $205 for each primary student and up to $410 for each secondary student.

You could receive the Schoolkids Bonus if you have a child in primary or secondary school and receive Family Tax Benefit Part A or you are a primary or secondary student receiving an income support payment.

If you think you are eligible and you haven’t already updated your child’s education details with Centrelink, then visit Online Services by 29 June 2013 to ensure you receive the correct amount and are paid on time.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaced the Education Tax Refund in January 2013 so eligible families cannot claim education expenses in their 2012-13 income tax return.

To ensure you receive the Schoolkids Bonus payment in July, check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus

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**CHILDREN WITH TYPE 1 DIABETES**
- Are You Challenged by Your Child’s Diabetes?
Research into parenting children with type 1 diabetes.

The University of Queensland is conducting research into parenting children with type 1 diabetes. Parenting a child with diabetes presents many challenges (everything from the regular blood glucose monitoring and insulin intake, to more general parenting tasks). The aim of this study is to understand the factors that make the management of childhood diabetes particularly difficult, and to use this information to develop strategies that might assist parents in managing their child’s diabetes.

If you are a parent of a 2 to 10-year-old child with type 1 diabetes, we would love to hear from you!

By sharing your experiences (confidentially), you will be making a valuable contribution to the development of much-needed childhood diabetes management strategies for parents.

To complete the online survey, please log on to: https://exp psy.uq.edu.au/type1diabetes

For further information about the project or to request a survey to be posted to you, please email Aditi Lohan (aditi.lohan@uqconnect.edu.au) or phone Amy Mitchell (07 3365 7305) at the Parenting and Family Support Centre in the School of Psychology at the University of Queensland, St Lucia QLD 4072 (Fax: 07 3365 6724). Thank you for your time and participation.

Aditi Lohan, Alina Morawska, and Amy Mitchell
UQ Parenting and Family Support Centre